

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 001362 TOSEC 250159

71

ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 PRS-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00

NSC-05 /024 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:REBUTLER:REB  
APPROVED BY PA/M:REHECKLINGER  
S/S:RKUCEL  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
PA, S/S, S/PRS

----- 095294

P 030133Z JAN 76 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 001362 TOSEC 250159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPH, PFOR, US, UR, AO

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT TONY AVIRGAN SPECIAL REPORT TO THE WASHINGTON STAR, FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, HEADED "SOVIETS GAINING STATURE IN AFRICA THROUGH ANGOLA INVOLVEMENT?"
2. DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA -- THE SOVIET UNION STANDS TO GAIN MUCH MORE THROUGH ITS INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA THAN JUST INFLUENCE IN THAT RICH AND STRATEGIC WEST AFRICAN COUNTRY.
3. AT STAKE IS INFLUENCE THROUGHOUT AFRICA THAT HAS BEEN A ELUSIVE GOAL FOR THE RUSSIANS FOR MORE THAN A DECADE. AND AT THE MOMENT -- BECAUSE OF SOVIET BACKING FOR THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FACTION CONTROLLING ANGOLA'S CAPITAL OF LUANDA -- RUSSIAN PRESTIGE APPEARS HIGHER IN MANY AFRICAN CAPITALS THAN EVER BEFORE.
4. AT LEAST A THIRD OF AFRICA'S BLACK-RULED COUNTRIES VIEW

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 001362 TOSEC 250159

THE BATTLE IN ANGOLA AS A DEFENSIVE ACTION BY THE POPULAR

MOVEMENT AGAINST AN INVASION BY SOUTH AFRICA AND AGAINST ANGOLANS IN THE PAY OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND OTHER WESTERN "IMPERIALIST" INTERESTS WHO ARE TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE COUNTRY.

5. TO THESE COUNTRIES THE SOVIET UNION SUDDENLY IS SEEN AS AN IMPORTANT ALLY IN THE FIGHT FOR AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE.

6. IT IS A ROLE THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO CAST THEMSELVES IN FOR A LONG TIME.

7. NATIONALISTS IN ALGERIA, FOR EXAMPLE, USED SOVIET ARMS IN THE EARLY 1960S TO WIN INDEPENDENCE FROM FRANCE. THE AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY IN GUINEA-BISSAU AND FRELIMO IN MOZAMBIQUE BOTH WERE ARMED IN PART BY THE SOVIET UNION DURING PROTRACTED WARS AGAINST PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM. IN NAMIBIA (SOUTH WEST AFRICA), THE SWAPO INDEPENDENCE GROUP IS USING SOVIET WEAPONS NOW TO STAGE ITS HIT-AND-RUN RAIDS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES THERE.

8. ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT, TOO, THE RUSSIANS CONSISTENTLY HAVE CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF AFRICAN FREEDOM FROM COLONIAL RULE IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND ANY OTHER AVAILABLE FORUM.

9. YET DESPITE ALL THIS, ITS EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH ITSELF AS A LEADER OF THE THIRD WORLD'S AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN RATED FAILURES.

10. HEAVY-HANDED ATTEMPTS BY MOSCOW TO PRESSURE NEWLY INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES HAVE ALIENATED MANY AFRICAN LEADERS. AND AS THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES GAINS MOMENTUM, RUSSIA IS THOUGHT BY AFRICANS TO BE AMONG THE RICH.

11. THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF A NEWLY INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRY'S REJECTION OF SOVIET PRESSURE CAME IN MOZAMBIQUE.

12. ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS FROM LOURENCO MARQUES, THE RUSSIANS LOBBIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO HAVE THEIR AMBASSADOR'S UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 001362 TOSEC 250159

CREDENTIALS ACCEPTED BEFORE THOSE OF THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR AFTER THE PORTUGUESE LEFT MOZAMBIQUE.

13. DURING ITS 10-YEAR WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE, FRELIMO RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. BUT SOVIET PRESSURE IN THE POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD REPORTEDLY LED MOZAMBIQUE'S FOREIGN MINISTER, JOAQUIM CHISSANO, TO MAKE A SPEECH EMPHASIZING MOZAMBIQUE'S REFUSAL

TO BE PRESSURED BY ANYONE.

14. THE SPEECH WAS MADE DURING A RECEPTION AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND, ACCORDING TO THOSE PRESENT, THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR WALKED AWAY RED-FACED AND TREMBLING.

15. SIMILARLY, JUST TO THE NORTH, IN TANZANIA, MOSCOW HAS BEEN TRYING HARD TO COUNTER A GROWING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TANZANIA AND CHINA. THE CHINESE, THROUGH A SERIES OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AID PROJECTS, HAVE MADE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION.

16. THE SOVIETS ARE SEEKING TO COUNTER THIS -- NOT THROUGH COMPETING AID PROJECTS, BUT BY ARRANGING A SHOWY STATE VISIT FOR SOVIET PRESIDENT NIKOLAI PODGORNYY. THE VISIT HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY ARRANGED AND POSTPONED AT LEAST THREE TIMES OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS.

17. THE RUSSIANS INSIST THAT PODGORNYY ADDRESS A MASS RALLY AT THE NATIONAL STADIUM, AND THAT THE VISIT BE CONCLUDED WITH THE SIGNING OF A SOVIET-TANZANIAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY.

18. THE TANZANIANS HAVE REJECTED BOTH PROPOSALS AND ARE SUGGESTING INSTEAD THAT THE SOVIET PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY INCLUDE A VISIT TO A REMOTE SECTION IN THE SOUTH OF THE COUNTRY, WHERE THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN TALKING FOR 10 YEARS ABOUT BUILDING A DAM.

19. BUT NOW, HOWEVER, TANZANIA AND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHO NEVER HAD MUCH TIME FOR THE RUSSIANS ARE DEFENDING THE SOVIET ROLE IN ANGOLA. THE BIGGEST FACTOR IN BRINGING UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 001362 TOSEC 250159

ABOUT THIS CHANGE HAS BEEN PROVIDED, IRONICALLY, BY SOUTH AFRICA.

20. SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE RIVAL NATIONAL FRONT AND UNITA FACTIONS IN ANGOLA'S STRIFE.

21. THIS HAS LED A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH PREVIOUSLY WERE CALLING FOR A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE THREE MOVEMENTS TO SWITCH TO FULL BACKING FOR THE POPULAR MOVEMENT.

22. SEVERAL OF THESE COUNTRIES, INCLUDING NIGERIA, NOW REPORTEDLY ARE READY TO SEND TROOPS TO ANGOLA TO FIGHT

ALONGSIDE THE SOVIET-BACKED POPULAR FACTION, ALSO

STRENGTHENED BY UP TO 7,500 CUBAN TROOPS.

23. DESPITE THE WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR THE POPULAR MOVEMENT, HOWEVER, THERE STILL IS CONSIDERABLE DISTRUST OF THE SOVIET UNION'S LONG-TERM INTENTIONS IN ANGOLA.

24. BUT FEARS OF ANGOLA BECOMING A SOVIET SATELLITE ARE OFFSET BY AN AWARENESS THAT THE POPULAR MOVEMENT, LIKE FRELIMO IN MOZAMBIQUE, CHERISHES ITS INDEPENDENCE.

25. ONE TANZANIAN OFFICIAL WHO KNOWS THE POPULAR MOVEMENT'S LEADER, AGOSTINHO NETO, WELL DESCRIBED HIM AS "THE MOST STUBBORN MAN I KNOW. HE DOESN'T TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYONE OUTSIDE THE MPLA."

26. SO FAR, 14 OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE RECOGNIZED THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AS THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA. AND DESPITE WHAT HAPPENS ON THE BATTLEFIELDS, THE SOVIETS ALREADY HAVE MADE IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC GAINS IN THESE COUNTRIES. (END TEXT) INGERSOLL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE001362  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** REBUTLER:REB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760001-1064  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaadagg.tel  
**Line Count:** 189  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN PA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** castelsl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 JUL 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by castelsl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS MATERIAL  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PFOR, US, UR, AO, XA, WASHINGTON STAR, (AVIRGAN, TONY)  
**To:** SECRETARY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006